

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.:

10/021,097 -

Filed:

12/12/01

Applicant:

Ghamaty, et al

For:

Thermoelectric Device with Si/SiC Superlattice N-Legs

Examiner:

Soward, Ida M

Group Art:

2822

Commissioner of Patents and Trdemarks

Washington, DC 20231

Marlel 12/27/2

Sir:

This letter is in response to Office Action mailed 10/1/02. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Drawings:

Please amend FIGS. 1-1B by adding – Prior Art—as shown circled in red on the attached copy of the first drawing sheet.

In the Specification:

Please amend the second paragraph of the background section as follows:

The present inventors have actually demonstrated that high ZT values can definitely be achieved with Si/Si_{0.8}Ge_{0.2} superlattice quantum well (See, for example, US Patent No. 5,550,387.) Most of the efforts to date with superlattices have involved alloys that are known to be good thermoelectric materials for cooling, many of which are difficult to manufacture as superlattices. The present inventors have had issued to them United States patents in 1995 and 1996 which disclose such materials and explain how to make them. These patents (which are hereby incorporated by reference herein) are US Patent Nos.: 5,436,467, 5,550,387. FIGS. 1A and 1B herein were FIGS. 3 and 5 of the "467 patent. A large number of very thin layers (in the '467 patent, about 250,000 layers) together produce a thermoelectric leg 10 about 0.254 cm thick. In the embodiment shown in the figures all the legs are connected electrically in series using sprayed-on metal layers 14 and otherwise are insulated from each other in an egg-crate type thermoelectric element as shown in FIG. 1A. As shown by arrows 30 in FIG. 1B current flows from the cold side to the hot side through P legs 12 and from the hot side to the cold side through

A

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AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Small Entity) Applicant(s): JAN 0 7 2003							Docket No.			
Serial No. Filing Date 10/021,097. 12/12/1			Examiner Sowand, I			TPA	Group Art Unit とおって			nit
Invention: Thermoelectric levice with 5i/5, (Superlattee N. Leg										
TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:										
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. Small Entity status of this application has been established under 37 CFR 1.27 by a verified statement previously submitted. A verified statement to establish Small Entity status under 37 FR 1.27 is enclosed. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.										
CLAIMS AS AMENDED										
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	₹		R EXTRA RATE PRESENT			ADDITIONAL FEE		AL
TOTAL CLAIMS	-	20 =			0	x \$9.00			\$0.00	
INDEP. CLAIMS	-	3 =			0	x \$4	2.00	\$0.00		
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable)							\$0.00		\$0.00	
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT								\$0.00		
No additional fee is required for amendment. Please charge Deposit Account No. in the amount of A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. A check in the amount of to cover the filing fee is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. Signature Dated:										
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CC:

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence